

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL MEDDAC MILITARY PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Fraternalization Policy

1. AR 600-20, Chapter 4, paragraph 4-14, states that fraternization is punishable under Article 134 of the UCMJ.
2. Any relationship between soldiers of different ranks that involves or gives the appearance of impartiality, preferential treatment, or the improper use of rank or position for personal gain is prejudicial to good order, discipline, and high unit morale and, therefore, will not be tolerated by this command.
3. If a senior ranking soldier (officer or enlisted) has direct supervisory control over a subordinate and there is a perception of differential treatment, this could be considered fraternization. For example, the senior soldier writes the lower ranking soldier's NCOER, OER or awards, or approves leaves, passes, or any favorable/unfavorable administrative action.
4. According to the changes in AR 600-20, certain personal relationships between commissioned and/or warrant officers and enlisted personnel are prohibited. These prohibitive agreements include business relationships, individual relationships, gambling, and relationships between permanent party and trainees. Exceptions to these prohibitions are outlined in the regulation. If you have any questions concerning relationships, please come and ask your command and consult with the Staff Judge Advocate before entering into any agreements.
5. Supervisors will counsel those involved in a questionable relationship on a DA Form 4856 and forward a copy to the Medical Company Commander. Questionable relationships will be addressed through the chain of command for consideration for UCMJ action.

THOMAS W. SMITH
Colonel, Medical Corps
Commanding